

Basic facts RF-101:

"Power lines were designed to transmit electrical energy. They were not designed to transmit broadband signals, which is fact are radio-frequency (RF) signals. When a broadband signal is put on a power line, much of the RF energy leaks off the line and radiates, causing interference to nearby radio receivers.

This interference affects the short waves -- a unique portion of the radio spectrum that supports long-distance, intercontinental radio communication. Licensed radio amateurs use these frequencies for hurricane reporting, disaster and emergency relief, and many other purposes in accordance with FCC regulations.

Radio amateurs support expanded broadband services to consumers at lower cost. Indeed, they tend to be early adopters of new technology. However, there are ways to deliver broadband that do not pollute the radio spectrum as BPL does. These include fiber-to-the-home, cable, DSL, and Broadband Wireless Access. None of these technologies causes interference to short wave radio."

Companies with BPL trial deployments tout lack of interference complaints as proof of compliance. Were there any amateur or emergency service operations even physically present in the carefully chosen test areas? If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there to hear it, is there a sound? YOU BET THERE IS! ITS SIMPLE SCIENCE!

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